

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--**Figure 2** shows a laser system **200** in accordance with a second embodiment, which utilizes a common pulser component **202** similar to that of Figure 1. In this embodiment, however, the trigger ionization is not timed using separate high-voltage pulse generators for each channel. Instead, a pre-ionization electrode **208** of the first discharge chamber **204** is driven by the same circuit that provides the discharge signal for the main electrodes **210** of the first chamber, using a conventional pre-ionization scheme. A separate preionization control signal, circuit, or control is not provided to the first discharge chamber, or master oscillator. This approach is more simplistic, but results in the emission of an optical pulse in the master oscillator having a timing variation on the order of about 10 ns with appropriate control circuitry. A photodetector **216** ~~[[210]]~~ can be positioned to detect the emission of a light pulse from the first discharge chamber **204**, which can be used to provide a timing signal to a high voltage pulse generator **212** for the ionization unit of the second discharge chamber **206**, or power amplifier. The high voltage pulse generator then can generate a trigger ionization in the amplifier chamber with a delay that is based on the emission of the light pulse in the oscillator chamber. In this way, the relative timing between chambers can be tightly controlled to within about 1 ns, independent of the variation of the timing of the emission of the optical pulse relative to the discharge signal provided by the common pulser component **202**. The electronic control module can be used in conjunction with the signal from the photodetector to provide an optimal delay between the emission of the light pulse in the oscillator and the subsequent trigger ionization, and discharge, in the amplifier. The “optimal” delay used between chambers can vary slightly, depending at least in part on operating parameters such as may include repetition rate and power. If more than two chambers are used, the photodetector can measure an emission in a master chamber to be used in setting a delay for each additional chamber. UV emission from this master chamber can trigger a photodetector which, in turn, can start the HV pulse source for ionizing the other chambers, with an appropriate delay (shown as “Delay 1” in figures).--